

ELECTRICIANS' EXAMINING BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Meeting Date: October 16, 2015
Meeting Location: Central Conference Room, State of Maine – Gardiner Annex
Northern Avenue, Gardiner, Maine

Meeting Began: 8:15 a.m.

Roll Call of Officers:

The following members were present:

Brian McDougal
Don Berry
Earl Sherwood
Peter Wilson

The following member(s) were absent:

Gerard Caron
Ryan Morgan

Staff Present:

Catherine Carroll, Board Administrator
Raymond Stanford, Senior Electrical Inspector
Kern Butler, Electrical Inspector
Robert LeClair, Executive Director of Manufacturing Housing
Harley Murray, Board Clerk

AAG Present:

Christopher Mann

Board Meeting Minutes

A motion was made to accept the March 20, 2015 minutes.

Motion: Don Berry
Second: Peter Wilson
Abstained: Earl Sherwood, Brian McDougal
Motion not carried

A motion was made to accept the September 18, 2015 minutes.

Motion: Earl Sherwood
Second: Don Berry
Unanimous

Hearing – #2015-ELE-11465 – Joseph Napoleone

The hearing commenced at 8:25 a.m. and closed for deliberation at 8:57 a.m. Joseph Napoleone was present and was not represented by counsel.

AAG, Christopher Mann, summarized the preliminary denial and subsequent appeal of Mr. Napoleone's application to sit for the journeyman electrician examination based on the lack of experience in electrical installations while licensed as a helper electrician.

A motion was made to uphold the denial.

Motion: Don Berry
Second: Peter Wilson
Unanimous

Hearing – #2015-ELE-10470 – William R. Witham, Jr.

The hearing commenced at 9:11 a.m. and closed for deliberation at 9:30 a.m. William Witham was not in attendance and was not represented by counsel.

Inspector Kern Butler testified on the licensee conducting electrical installations outside the scope of his license.

A motion was made to find performing beyond the scope of a license to be a violation of 32 M.R.S. §8003-5(A).

Motion: Peter Wilson
Don Berry
Unanimous

A motion was made to assess a penalty of \$1,000.00 for the violation and to issue letter of reprimand to the licensee.

Motion: Peter Wilson
Second: Don Berry
Unanimous

Hearing – #2015-ELE-10904 – Gunnar L. Olson, Jr.

A consent agreement was presented which Mr. Olson had signed thus agreeing to the terms within.

A motion was made to accept the consent agreement as presented.

Motion: Peter Wilson
Second: Don Berry
Unanimous

Presentation of Complaint 2015-ELE-11344 Mark W. Garrison

A motion was made to dismiss the complaint.

Motion: Peter Wilson
Second: Don Berry
Unanimous

Administrator's Report

Catherine Carroll requested the Board's interpretation of 32 M.R.S. §1206 and how staff should be applying this statutory provision when processing applications for licensing via reciprocity. She noted that the wording in the law is ambiguous and can be interpreted in more ways than one. The Board stated that this provision should be interpreted and applied to mean that an individual who can demonstrate at least 6 years of licensed working experience in electrical installations, regardless of state(s) in which this experience was gained, can obtain a Maine license, via reciprocity, so long as they hold a current license with a state that the Board has a reciprocity agreement.

Catherine Carroll stated that staff is no longer granting extensions of time for licensees to complete continuing education. Instead licensees applying to renew their license without completing the required 15 hour current NEC update will be denied. The Board agreed that licenses should not be renewed unless the continuing education requirement is met.

Senior Electrical Inspector's Report

Senior Inspector Stanford reports that there have been 35% more inspection site visits than last year at this time approximately 20% of which had violations.

Senior Inspector Stanford reported that PV Rapid Shutdown Article 690.12 notice went out via GovDelivery and is posted on the website. Discussed how the code does not yet direct us on how to deal with additions to existing systems in regards to placarding and rapid shutdown requirements. That is: do we add rapid shutdown to the existing system? How do we placard systems that are hybrid: half with rapid shutdown and half without? Also discussed was the need for the board to make a decision on date for inspectors to start enforcing rapid shutdown. A motion was made to allow state inspectors to use bid date for rapid shutdown for PV system demarcation. That is: Rapid shutdown is going to be enforced 1/1/16 with the exception of jobs with a bid date before that date. Any jobs bid before that date will be allowed to go forward without Rapid Shutdown.

Motion: Don Berry
Second: Earl Sherwood
Unanimous

Other Business

Brian McDougal relayed that Ideal Industries will no longer be manufacturing AFCI testers as it is no longer feasible.

Adjournment

A motion was made to adjourn the October 16, 2015 meeting at 11:45.

Motion: Don Berry
Second: Peter Wilson
Unanimous

Respectfully submitted,
Harley Murray, Board Clerk